

June 16, 2003

Mr Alex Hildebrand  
South Delta Water Agency  
4255 Pacific Avenue Suite 2  
Stockton, California 95207

Dear Mr. Hildebrand:

This is in reply to your letter dated June 2, 2003, regarding the discussion at the May 28 Workshop on the Surface Storage and Conveyance management strategies for Update 2003 of the California Water Plan.

As you know, this Update of the California Water Plan is being conducted with unprecedented public participation. You are a member of the very active 70-member Advisory Committee which has met 21 times in the past 29 months. In addition there have been about 50 workgroup meetings and about 10 legislative and regional briefings. All of these meetings are publicly noticed. Furthermore all draft materials are posted on the Department of Water Resources Web site. It is safe to say that no prior update of the California Water Plan, and few other State plans, have expended as much time and resources to foster an open, transparent and collaborative planning process.

No policy has been or will be adopted behind closed doors, and no new policy has been adopted by DWR or the Resources Agency regarding Update 2003. After full consideration by the Advisory Committee, a Draft California Water Plan Update will be published for public review at the end of this year. That will be followed by public hearings around the State. With the benefit of that additional input, the Update will be finalized next year.

At the May 28 meeting I stated that, based on Advisory Committee input to date, it seems reasonable to me that the Update should be a plan that would meet urban needs, preserve agriculture and provide for a quality environment. Those are all beneficial uses of water as set forth in the Water Code. Advising us on how those needs can be met is a major role of the Advisory Committee over the next six months.

One of your major contributions to the Advisory Committee has been to voice the concern that there be an adequate food supply for California's expanding population. As part of the process for updating the California Water Plan, we are contracting with

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the Agricultural Issues Center at the University of California, Davis to research and report to us on the following tasks, consistent with AB 2587:

- Impacts of population growth and demographics on agricultural commodities consumption and commodity policies on California food and fiber production
- Forecast of 2030 California food and fiber consumption, exports, outshipments to other states, imports, and inshipments from other states
- Forecast of 2030 California food and fiber crop production, crop market demand and prices, farm labor market, world food and fiber supply and demand conditions, land and other agricultural production resources, including irrigation supplies.
- Discussion of the sustainability of world agricultural production and potential impacts on the market for California crops.

If you have additional questions or need more information, please contact me at (916) 653-8045.

Sincerely,  
Original Signed by  
(sgd) Jonas Minton

Jonas Minton  
Deputy Director

cc: (See attached list.)

bcc: Mary Nichols, Secretary  
Resources Agency

Lucinda Chipponeri  
Kamyar Guivetchi ✓

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P:\Hildebrand Response  
Spell check June 16, 2003

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The Stockton Record  
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The Modesto Bee  
Post Office Box 5256  
Modesto, California 95352

The Sacramento Bee  
Post Office Box 15779  
Sacramento, California 95852

Los Angeles Times  
202 West First Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

The Fresno Bee  
1626 E Street  
Fresno, California 93786-0001

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2640 Shadelands Drive  
Walnut Creek, California 94598

The San Francisco Chronicle  
901 Mission Street  
San Francisco, California 94102